

ernment of the United States, and those of the people of this State to the rest of the American people, may be defined and affirmed, we do declare :

The equality and rights of men.

SECTION 1. That we hold it to be self-evident that all men are created equal ; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights ; that among these are life, liberty, the enjoyment of the fruits of their own labor, and the pursuit of happiness.

Political power and government.

SEC. 2. That all political power is vested in, and derived from, the people ; all government of right originates from the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole.

Internal government of the State.

SEC. 3. That the people of this State have the inherent, sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal government and police thereof, and of altering and abolishing their Constitution and form of government whenever it may be necessary to their safety and happiness ; but every such right should be exercised in pursuance of law, and consistently with the Constitution of the United States.

That there is no right to secede.

SEC. 4. That this State shall ever remain a member of the American Union ; that the people thereof are part of the American nation ; that there is no right on the part of the State to secede, and that all attempts from whatever source or upon whatever pretext, to dissolve said Union, or to sever said nation, ought to be resisted with the whole power of the State.

Of allegiance to the U. S. government.

SEC. 5. That every citizen of this State owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution and Government of the United States, and that no law or ordinance of the State in contravention or subversion thereof, can have any binding force.

Public debt.

SEC. 6. The State shall never assume or pay, or authorize the collection of any debt or obligation, express or implied, incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave.